

81. The cell of claim 80 that has increased proliferative capacity compared to a cell of the same type lacking said polynucleotide encoding the hTERT polypeptide.

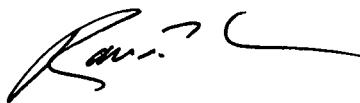
82. A cell produced according to claim 24.--

REMARKS

Following entry of this Amendment, claims 24-35 and 46-82 will be pending. The pending claims relate to, *inter alia*, cells comprising a recombinant polynucleotide encoding an hTERT polypeptide. Support for the claims is replete in the specification. Claims such as claim 63, relating to cells with increased proliferative activity, find support throughout the specification and are particularly described at, *e.g.*, page 7, lines 25-26, and page 99, line 9 to page 108, line 19.

It is believed that the pending claims are in condition of allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (650) 326-2400, Ext. 5270.

Respectfully submitted,



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